



# Walking Home Alone Policy

**Date**            **September 2018**  
**Review:**       **September 2022**

This policy is devised for the general health and safety of children.

Parents of children who wish them to walk home unescorted by an adult, at the end of the school day (15.25pm), must adhere to the following guidelines;

- Parents must have registered with the school that they are prepared for their children to walk directly home from school at the end of the day by completing the appropriate letter and a keyring will be issued.
- Children must be in Year 4, 5 or 6.
- It is the parent's responsibility to check the route that their children may walk home in order that they may make an assessment of the appropriateness of the journey. Crossing of fast roads, walking through secluded areas is to be discouraged. A single route should be agreed.
- Parents must be certain that children have an awareness and understanding of the green cross code and stranger danger. It is parent's responsibility to ensure they are sufficiently happy that their child is capable of undertaking the proposed journey safely.
- During winter months and/or inclement weather, children must be dressed appropriately.
- Children should preferably walk in a group and not alone.
- Children should know their home phone number (plus one other emergency contact) and preferably have their own mobile phone.
- Preferably there must be someone at home to meet the child on their arrival.
- If any child does not arrive home as expected, parents must immediately notify the school in order that appropriate action can be taken.
- If any child does not arrive home and direct contact with the child has not been established by either school or parents, parents and school will contact relevant authorities.
- If the police have been informed there must be a point of contact remaining at both the home and school location until further advised by the relevant authorities.
- If your child does arrive home after police have been informed, immediate notification to the relevant authorities/emergency services must be made. This is to enable the procedure to be stood down.
- Once the procedure is initiated responsibility will pass to the relevant authority to further any enquiries. Both parents and school will be guided by them in order that a successful outcome is achieved.

